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Message Text

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45
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 FEA-02 INT-08 TRSE-00

STR-08 ACDA-19 IO-14 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

AF-10 NEA-10 ARA-16 EA-11 OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /209 W
---------- 103424
R 150848Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5276
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ON ENERGY CRISIS

1. SUMMARY. PRESS COVERAGE OF U.S. PROPOSAL FOR MEETING OF MAJOR OIL CONSUMING NATIONS EMPHASIZES WEST EUROPEAN SUSPICION AND FRENCH CRITICISM. PRAVDA COMMENTARY ON OPEC MEETING SAYS TIME OF EXPLOITATION OF OIL PRODUCERS BY OIL COMPANIES HAS ENDED, AND ONLY SOLUTION TO OIL PROBLEMS IS MUTUALLY PROFITABLE COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.
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2. PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA (JANUARY 12) PLAY FAIRLY STRAIGHTFORWARD ACCOUNT OF SECRETARY'S JANUARY 10 PRESS CONFERENCE AGAINST BACK-GROUND OF REPORTS OF RESERVATIONS ABOUT PROPOSED MEETING OF OIL CONSUMER STATES FROM EUROPEAN CAPITALS. MOST PROMINENTLY REPORTED ITEM IS FRENCH "NATION" ARTICLE WHICH CLAIMS U.S. IS SEEKING TO USE CONFERENCE TO PRESSURE OIL PRODUCERS AND OBTAIN DECISIONS ANSWERING INTERESTS OF U.S. OIL COMPANIES. TASS REPORTS DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S DEMAND THAT ALL EC NINE TAKE PART IN MEETING AND BELGIANS CALL FOR DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSAL BY EEC. ANOTHER TASS ITEM SAYS U.S. PRESS IS EXPRESSING OPINION THAT DECISION TO CALL CONFERENCE IS RESULT OF WASHINGTON'S CONCERN AT WORSENING OF RELATIONS WITH WESTERN STATES AND CITES CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR TO EFFECT THAT WESTERN CAPITALS CONCERNED THAT WHILE MAKING DECLARATIONS ABOUT UNITY, U.S. IS ACTUALLY UNDERMINING ECONOMIC POSITIONS OF WEST EUROPEAN PARTNERS.

3. PRAVDA COMMENTARY BY I. POGODINA (JANUARY 12) ON OPEC MEETING CASTS OIL "MONOPOLIES" AS VILLAINSOF CURRENT ENERGY CRISIS. SHE CALLS RECENT PRICE INCREASES PRODUCER'S LEGITIMATE DEFENSE MEASURE AGAINST EXPLOITATION BY OIL COMPANIES WHOSE PROFITS IN SOME PARTS OF ME HAVE REACHED 500 PERCENT, AND SHE CLAIMS THAT "MONOPOLIES" PAY MORE IN TAXES TO THEIR OWN GOVERNMENTS THAN TO OWNERS OF OIL RESOURCES. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, POGODINA SAYS, ARE ASKING WHY THEY SHOULD FINANCE INDUSTRIAL STATES. NOTING OPEC REPRESENTATIVE ANNOUNCED THAT FREEZE IN PRICES GIVES WEST OPPORTUNITY TO CONTROL OIL "MONOPOLIES," POGODINA ASSERTS THAT "IMPERIALIST CIRCLES" ON ONE HAND ARE TRYING TO INCITE CONSUMERS AGAINST OPEC STATES AND ON OTHER ARE TRYING TO INTIMIDATE PRODUCING STATES BY REPRISALS. HOWEVER, SHE CONCLUDES,
IT IS CLEAR THAT ONLY SOLUTION TO OIL PROBLEM IS MUTUALLY PROFITABLE COOPERATION WITH RESPECT FOR INTERESTS AND LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PRODUCER STATES.DUBS

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